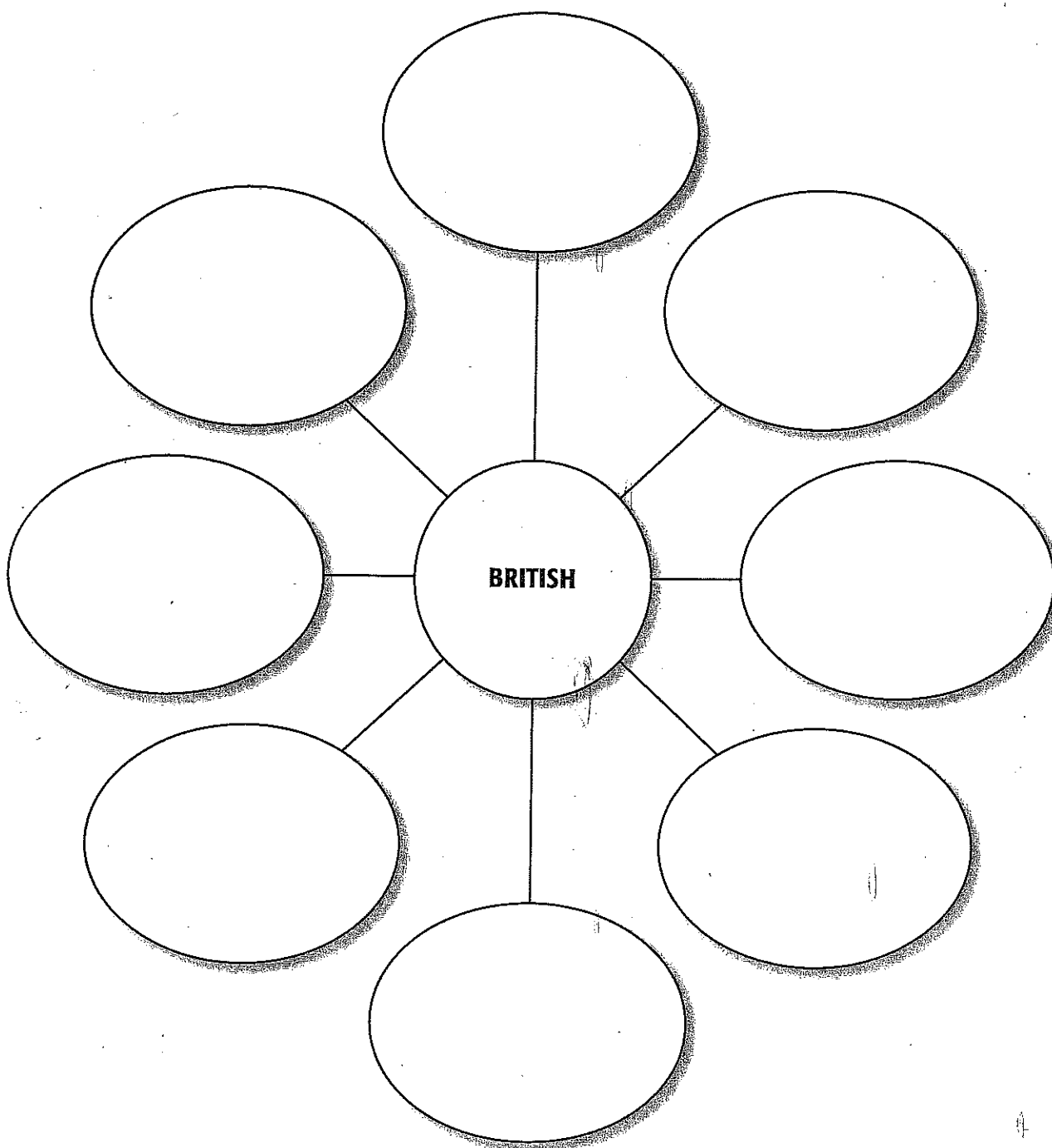


Active READING GUIDE



from ***The Crisis, No. 1*** by Thomas Paine (page 155)

Throughout the excerpt from *The Crisis, No. 1*, Paine uses extremely negative language to characterize the British and to rally the colonists against England. As you read the excerpt, look closely at the language Paine uses to describe the British. Complete the word web below with as many of these words as you can find.



Hyperbole is exaggeration, sometimes used in political writing to arouse the audience's emotions.

In each example of hyperbole below, to whom is Thomas Paine trying to appeal, and what effect does he want to have?

1. **Britain has trembled like an ague at the report of a French fleet.**

2. **The blood of his children will curse his cowardice who shrinks back at a time when a little might have saved the whole.**

Think of another selection you have read and identify examples of hyperbole.